KATIVIK

Quarterly Update

Keeping Nunavimmiut up to date on the work of the Kativik Regional Government

Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan

The 14 northern villages generate close to 12,000 tonnes of residual materials every year. Almost all of these materials end up in local landfills as waste, where they are burned, buried or stored.

To reduce this waste and maximize the use of residual materials, the KRG Council adopted at its February sitting a bylaw approving the implementation of the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*. More than a few measures proposed in the Plan are already being worked on.

Used vehicle batteries and tires for example have been recycled for several years. In 2014, approximately 2000 batteries and 18 containers of used tires were shipped south by Nunavik communities for recycling. Several villages also have hazardous materials storage sites for household cleaning products, appliances, and light bulbs containing mercury, among other items. In Kuujjuaq, Inujjuak, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Salluit and Kuujjuarapik, the municipalities have for their part adopted by-laws to reduce construction materials sent to local landfills.

Important projects underway in 2015 include scrap-metal recycling in Kangiqsualujjuaq and organic materials composting in Kuujjuaq.

Residual materials planning is giving municipalities a variety of tools to improve local management practices.

Team Nunavik–Québec

Local Team Nunavik Qualifiers (to sub-zone successfully organized in many communities between November 2014 and January 2015).

The KRG Recreation Department is implementing a two-year Team Nunavik–Québec development and selection process. Coastal trials are planned in Quaqtaq from April 24 to 26 for selected Ungava coast residents and in Inukjuak from May 8 to 10 for selected Hudson coast residents. At the coastal trials, participants will be evaluated according to their performance, training, as well as overall behaviour and attitude.

The final selection of Team Nunavik–Québec athletes and cultural performers will be made in November 2015 at a regional trial event. A pre-requisite for participation at the regional trials will be the completion of a passport application process. The 2016 Arctic Winter Games are to be hosted in Nuuk, Greenland, from March 6 to 12.

Tamaani Milestone

Tamaani Internet has been delivering services to Nunavimmiut for 10 years. Over this period, the Internet has become a vital communications tool in homes, businesses, schools and organizations, as well as playing an important role in health care, the administration of justice, and the connectivity of residents. Information vignettes on www.tamaani.ca or Tamaani's Facebook page can help you optimize your home Internet speed.

Walk for Education

On March 25, 10 Inuit, Inuu and Naskapi youth arrived in Kuujjuaq completing a 950-km trekking journey from Kawawachikamach. The group was accompanied by Dr. Stanley Vollant (Québec's first Aboriginal surgeon), elders and camp instructors. The amazing Walk for Education project was completed in partnership with the KRG Tuuma program. Tuuma is aiming to create a Nunavik-wide synergy and enhance actions around education for all learners to persevere towards success.

School Breakfast Clubs

School breakfast clubs fit well with the vision expressed in the Pamuinnatik Consultation Report to empower communities and concretely address food insecurity faced by individuals and families.

Funding was recently earmarked to support the school breakfast club program delivered by the Kativik School Board for students aged 5 to 17. Drawing on its Sanarrutik funding for community and economic development projects, the KRG will provide $10,000 per school, representing a total contribution of $170,000 for the entire region. The KRG funding complements moneys already provided by Breakfast Club Canada, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, municipalities and local fundraising activities.

Family House Funding

The KRG has earmarked $400,000 per community from its Sanarrutik funding for community and economic development projects to foster local family house initiatives. Guidelines have also been prepared by the KRG Regional and Local Development Department to facilitate access to other KRG funding programs for the same purpose, including the Makigiarniit Fund and the Pivalliniit Program.

Nunavik Inuit Declaration

Delegates at the annual general meeting of the Makivik Corporation at the end of March adopted the Nunavik Inuit Declaration. The declaration clearly states the region's commitment to protect Inuit culture and language, as well as improve residents' socio-economic situation. The KRG has been a key player in the two-year process that has included workshops organized in 2013 in all the communities, as well as in Chisasibi, Kawawachikamach and Montreal. The *Pamuinnatik Consultation Report* was released in 2014. Complete Pamuinnatik documentation is available at www.pamuinnatik.com.

New Québec Childcare Fee

Late in 2014, the National Assembly proposed amendments to the *Educational Childcare Act* to change the province's rules for determining the childcare fees paid by parents across Québec. In February, the KRG prepared and submitted a brief to the Committee on Public Finance, expressing serious reservations regarding the proposed amendments. The brief explained that childcare fees geared to parent income will produce unfair and harmful effects in Nunavik on the health, well-being and development of children, as well as on the financial situation and employability of some parents.

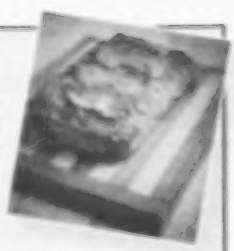
In the coming months, the KRG will continue to press Québec to take into account the impacts of the new childcare fee rules on all parents in the region. Nineteen childcare centres in all the communities provide care for 1,004 children and employ more than 250 people as educators, cooks, directors and janitors.

More Childcare Spaces

In early March, the Québec government accepted an application submitted by the Iqitarvik–Tamiapiit Childcare Centre to create 60 new subsidized childcare spaces in Kuujjuaq. The KRG Sustainable Employment Department plays an important role in supporting childcare centres in Nunavik and is lending its solid technical experience to this project.

New childcare centres were also constructed by Québec in Salluit, Puvirnituq and Inukjuak in 2013, and in Kangiqsualujjuaq in 2014.

Publications



The *Nunavik Family Cookbook* was produced by the Avataq Cultural Institute for the KRG Sustainable Employment Department. The recipes included in the cookbook were developed for use in childcare centres and in response to nutritional needs.

Edited by Kuujjuaq resident Hannah Gordon, *Northern Lights* provides a youth perspective on Nunavik. "The way a child views their community is very different from what an adult sees." The youngest photographer whose image is included in the project is 4 years old.

Update: Study on the Cost of Living in Nunavik

Data collection for this study is underway in Nunavik. Interviews were conducted in Kuujjuaq and Tasiujaq in January and in Salluit and Kangiqsualujjuaq in March. More interviews will be conducted in Puvirnituq and Umiujaq in May.

The mayors in the concerned villages are assisting with the study by communicating information to local residents, while KRG local employment officers are conducting the interviews with the participating households. The study is being coordinated by Université Laval.

The Makivik Corporation, the KRG and the Québec government have made a commitment to use the results of the study to come up with effective and long-term solutions to the region's high cost of living. The study results are expected to be ready for release by the middle of 2016.

Strong, local support is contributing to the implementation of the Nunavik cost-of-living survey.

Solidarity Tax Credit for Residents

Following lobbying by the KRG and the Makivik Corporation in 2013, the amount of the northern residency component of the solidarity tax credit was doubled for adults. In 2015, the maximum credit is $1,637 per eligible adult and $354 per eligible child. The credit is payable by direct deposit to all residents who file their annual income tax returns, even if they have no taxes to pay. Recipients must have a bank account.

Québec has estimated that, of the region's 3,500 households, 72% will be eligible for the entire portion of the northern residency component of the solidarity tax credit. For more information about income tax returns, contact the Makivik Corporation by telephone at 1-877-625-4845, or visit Revenu Québec at http://www.revenuquebec.ca/en.

Sanajiit Recognition

Ten Inuit construction workers were presented certificates of recognition for their solid work ethics and dedication to Nunavik's construction industry. These *sanajiit* accumulated at least 1000 work hours in 2014, an amazing accomplishment. The KRG is proud of Inuit choosing careers in the construction industry and is committed to fostering a strong and autonomous regional construction workforce.

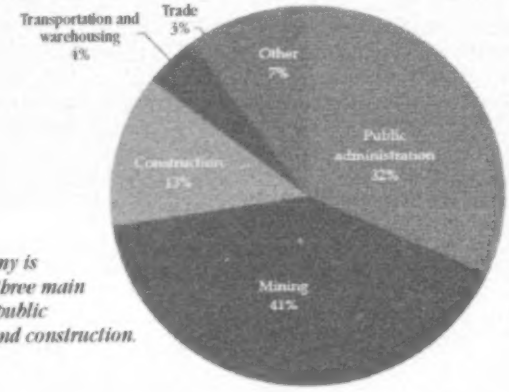
Sanajiit Jamisie Pauyungie (middle) receiving a recognition certificate from Makivik president Jobie Tukkiapik and KRG chairperson Maggie Emudluk.

Nunavik Economic Portrait

The main preliminary findings of the Nunavik Economic Portrait prepared by Université Laval under the Nunivaat – Nunavik Statistics Program were presented to the KRG Council in February. The findings indicate that:

- The share of the public sector in overall regional economic activity is decreasing, although the sector has grown in absolute terms.
- The mining sector is the main contributor to gross domestic product but, given the salaries and profits paid to fly-in-fly-out workers, the impact on the disposable income of Nunavimmiut is small.
- When looking at per capita disposable income, the gap between Nunavik and Québec as a whole is diminishing.

An economic portrait is a description of the nature and size of a regional economy. It measures monetary flow between economic actors, i.e. local producers, residents, government and the rest of the world. The complete report will be ready by the fall of 2015.



Nunavik's economy is concentrated in three main sectors: mining, public administration and construction.

KRG Council

A special sitting of the KRG Council is planned for April 23. The main purpose of the sitting is to review and approve the organization's audited financial statements for 2014. The next regular quarterly sitting of the KRG Council will be conducted from May 25 to 28 in Inukjuak.

Nunavik Justice Committees

Justice committees help with the delivery of justice in a way that is respectful of Inuit culture.

Justice committees are operating today in 10 communities. Their main goals are to promote and maintain social peace and harmony and to empower Inuit who have been affected by crime and conflict.

Each local justice committee is composed of a coordinator, who liaises with all justice stakeholders and is responsible for the activities of the committee, and members, who meet with assigned clients, provide counselling and teach skills. The Nunavik justice committee program receives funding from the federal and Québec governments as well as from the Ungaluk Program for safer communities.

Police Ethics Presentation

Québec Police Ethics Commissioner, Paul Larochelle, made a presentation at the February sitting of the KRG Council. The specific role of the Commissioner is to handle public complaints against police officers in a fair and transparent manner so as to ensure respect for individual rights and freedoms. The Police Ethics Commissioner is autonomous and independent of any police force. The office has been providing civilian oversight of police actions in Québec since 1990.

Regional Police Milestone

This year marks the 20th year of operations of the Kativik Regional Police Force (KRPF). The KRPF has been delivering regular policing services with detachments in every community since April 1, 1996. The KRPF's mission, pursuant to the *Police Act*, is to maintain peace, order and public security; to prevent and repress crime and offences under the law and municipal by-laws in the Kativik Region; as well as to apprehend offenders. The KRG and the KRPF recently finalized renewed funding agreements with the Solicitor General of Canada and the Ministère de la Sécurité publique (public security) that will inject more than $81 million into regional police services over four years.

Ungaluk Program

For 2015, funding under the Ungaluk Program for safer communities has been approved for a total of 32 projects in nine communities. Project decisions are determined jointly by the Makivik Corporation and the KRG based on priorities that were revised last year, namely to reduce substance abuse and addiction; to promote the social reintegration of offenders; and to assist the victims of crime and violence. Makivik is responsible for the administration of the Ungaluk Program.

Drug and Alcohol Seizures

At the KRG Council sitting in February, the KRPF presented statistics compiled on alcohol and drug seizures made in 2014.

Substances	2012	2013	2014
Marijuana	41,317 gr.	41,252 gr.	20,196 gr.
Hashish	628 vials of oil (311 gr.)	175 vials of oil (7 gr.)	458 vials of oil (2507 gr.)
Crack cocaine, cocaine	14 gr.	4 gr.	4 gr.
Pills	150	--	50
Alcohol	$413,920	$254,979	$340,672
Total street value, north	**$2,551,450**	**$2,329,239**	**$1,527,302**

In 2014, the KRPF adjusted its approach to bootlegging. Specifically, by-law enforcement was used to make seizures. Municipal by-laws permit alcohol to be seized immediately under the *Act respecting Offences related to Alcoholic Beverages*. Although fines are lower than under the *Criminal Code*, the results of this approach are more immediate.

KRG Open House, Kangirsuk

Open house activities were conducted in Kangirsuk on April 1 and 2. Appearing in photo: KRG local employment officer Lizzie Pululik explaining her duties.